

BATON ROUGE, LA.
STATE TIMES

E. 33,925

MAY 6 1961

DEBATE ABOUT CUBA

Now and for some time to come there will be extensive debate about the decisions involved in the abortive Cuban rebellion and about whose advice led to the fiasco. The situation rivals but does not equal the furore over the U-2 spy plane incident that plagued the Eisenhower administration in its closing period.

Apparently the Cuban failure was due to a number of things, and it will be hard to assign blame. Newsweek Magazine, for example, has reported that the decision to encourage the Cuban rebels was made in a meeting which included some of the top people in our government — CIA head Allen Dulles among them, also the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, Gen. Lemnitzer. The magazine says there was no dissent. But the decision was based on either faulty information or faulty judgment, or both.

It will serve little good to have a public hue and cry about what went wrong. It will be good, however, for President Kennedy to have the closest kind of scrutiny given to every operation which produced the wrong judgment. We cannot afford many more blunders of the U-2 and Cuban variety.

Fortunately for President Kennedy this trouble has developed early in his administration. He has time to get things on a better basis before his term is over.